

 44. (Twice Amended) The printhead of Claim 45 wherein the nozzles of each nozzle column have a pitch of 600 nozzles per inch (npi).

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful review of the application as set out in the outstanding office action. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

A marked up version of the changes made to the application is attached hereto.

In the outstanding office action, Claim 45 stands as allowed, and Claims 1-36 and 40-44 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Steinfeld et al. in view of Maeda. Without conceding the appropriateness of the rejection, Claims 1-36 have been cancelled without prejudice to advance the case to issue. Dependencies of Claims 40, 41, 43, 44 have been amended so that Claims 40-44 now depend, directly or indirectly, on allowed Claim 45 (which is drawn to subject matter of cancelled Claim 38). The amendment to change the dependencies should be entered since the dependent claims depend from an allowed base claims, and thus are also in condition for allowance.

Claim 40 has been amended to correct a minor grammatical error.

It is noted that Claim 41 has been further amended, to correct an error introduced in the prior amendment filed March 18, 2003. In particular, the recitation of Claim 41 in this prior amendment included language not explicitly added to the claim, and which did not appear in Claim 41 as filed. The language "the nozzles comprising the array are arranged in subgroups of nozzles, each subgroup comprising at least two nozzles, each subgroup fed with liquid ink through a corresponding ink flow path isolated from other nozzles of the array by the barrier layer/orifice structure" is therefore shown as deleted. Claim 41 as thus amended is identical to original Claim 41, except that the dependency is amended to allowed Claim 45.

Entry of those amendments is appropriate since they place the application in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the application is in condition for allowance. Such favorable reconsideration is solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned in the event the Office deems these amendments to raise new issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

40. (Twice Amended) The printhead of Claim [36] 45, wherein the ink flow path for each nozzle subgroup includes an opening or set of openings through the thin film layer and through the substrate, and wherein each nozzle of a nozzle subgroup is supplied with ink via said opening or set of openings.

41. (Twice Amended) The printhead of Claim [36] 45 [the nozzles comprising the array are arranged in subgroups of nozzles, each subgroup comprising at least two nozzles, each subgroup fed with liquid ink through a corresponding ink flow path isolated from other nozzles of the array by the barrier layer/orifice structure], further comprising printhead electronics that provide firing pulses to the drop generators such that no two nozzles of each nozzle subgroup are fired sequentially.

43. (Amended) The printhead of Claim [36] 45 wherein the barrier/orifice structure includes a polymer layer.

44. (Twice Amended) The printhead of Claim [36] 45 wherein the nozzles of each nozzle column have a pitch of 600 nozzles per inch (npi).